

PATENT SPECIFICATION

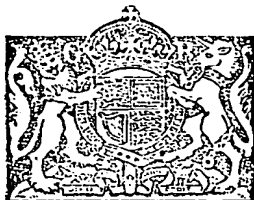
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369,443

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Complete Accepted: March 24, 1932.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.



Improvements in or relating to Hair Clasps.

I, BENJAMIN CAHN, a German Citizen, sole proprietor of the firm Benjamin Cahn, of 8, Corneliusstrasse, Frankfurt am. Main, Germany, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a hair clasp, which is particularly suitable for the flat curls over the ears, but may also be used for other purposes.

Various means have already been produced for holding flat curls. For example hairpins have been employed which were pinned through the curl. These holding means however are open to the objection, on the one hand that they slip out of the curl comparatively easily and, on the other hand, do not hold the flat curl sufficiently securely in its winding plane. For the same purpose narrow clamping pins are employed, of which however two or more are always required, in order to give sufficient hold in the curling plane. A further securing means for flat curls consists of rings, hingedly connected and covered by plaiting, held together by a bow or the like at a point opposite the hinge. This device offers a secure hold for the curl in the curling plane, but is difficult to fix on the curl.

The hair clasp according to the invention is of the type which consists of two clamping arms with handles attached thereto pressed together by springs. Such hair clasps are known in different construction. Thus for example moustache clasps are known with two clamping arms of substantially arcuate cross section. One of these arms, namely the narrower one, lies in its closed position in the cavity of the wider arm so that the hair clamped between the arms receives a bend or curvature. Such clasps can however evidently not be employed for flat curls, as they must be held flat. Other pins, in which the arms themselves, are resilient hairpins or hairpin-like constructions that is bifurcated, are employed chiefly for water waves, but these do not afford sufficient support for flat curls.

Hair curling devices intended for fixing
[Price 1/-]

a water wave have also been proposed which consist of a pair of arms hinged together under the influence of a spring which tends to close them upon each other and curve or bend outwardly at their free edges to form the actual jaws which are each provided with teeth or with a row of pins set at an obtuse angle with respect to the general plane of the device.

The invention has for its object to construct the hair clasp so that, whilst being simple and quick to operate, it affords the necessary reliable support in the coil plane, especially for a flat curl. According to the invention the two resilient clamping arms are constructed without projections such as pins, teeth or the like so that when the device is in the closed condition one of the arms is held by the spring substantially in contact or in close proximity with the other arm over its entire surface. In this way a device is provided which enables a flat curl to be clamped flat in a satisfactory and reliable manner.

In the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 shows a top plan view of a hair clasp according to the invention.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of Fig. 1, the clasp being in closed position.

Fig. 3 is a similar view to Fig. 2, the arms being in open position.

Fig. 4 shows in perspective view the clasp in position of use.

In the construction illustrated two parts are hingedly connected by a pivot pin 1 and consist each of a handle 2 and of a clamping arm 3. The handles 2 form a short lever arm, but offer a comparatively large gripping surface. The clamping arms 3, which have an aperture in the middle, form a much larger lever arm and extend from the inner end of the handles 2, their outer circumferential lines in top plan view first diverging in a curve and subsequently converging towards the free end of the arms. The boundary of each clamping arm in top plan view forms a curved line, which commences on one side of the clamping arm on the inner end of this arm and only returns on the other side to the inner end of the arm. In this manner the clamp-

- only two fingers
- radial or axial
- fingers straight

ing arms 3 extend in curve shape from the inner end of the arm and return to the starting point. The pivot 1, which consists of a wire or thin pin, connects the one with the other through the medium of lugs 4 provided at the inner end of the handles and bent downwards at right angles to the handles 2. A spiral spring, not shown in the drawing, is wound around the wire or pin so that its ends 5 press against the handles 2 and tend to force the clamping arms 3 the one against the other. The handles 2 are bent outwards relative to the clamping arms 3 from their inner ends so that, when the clasp is closed, they are at a certain distance apart.

In the example described the clamping arms are substantially of oval shape.

Instead of being provided with an aperture, each clamping arm may be formed of a solid part.

The handles 2 and clamping arms 3 situated one on each side of the pivot 1 are in the form of construction described each formed of a thin piece of sheet metal, which is itself resilient, namely by being stamped in such a manner that a strip remains extending from the base of the clamping arm and returning in an uninterrupted curve to the other side of the base (Figs. 1 and 4).

If the clasp is released, the spring forces the handles 2 apart and the free ends of the clamping arms together in such a manner that the front parts of these arms contact. Owing to their springiness the clamping arms 3 bear flatly the one on the other for a certain portion of their length, as shown in Fig. 2. During the moving together of the handles 2, the hair clasp being preferably held between the thumb and index finger, a slackening of the spring effect of the clamping arms 3 takes place at first and after the free ends have moved apart, the clamping arms 3 assume provisionally a parallel position the one to the other (Fig. 3).

For the purpose of using the hair clasp, the strands of hair which are to form a flat curl, are brought into this shape by hand, after which the hair clasp is slipped over the curl in open condition so that the curl lies between the arms 3. The handles 2 are then released. The clasp then bears on the hair strands, even if the curl to be held is comparatively thick, so that consequently the clamping arms in their clamping position assume a position substantially as illustrated in Fig. 3, the hair clasp holding the lock of hair tightly in its curl form, owing to its good clamping effect, obtained along the entire length of the clamping arm 3 (Fig. 4).

Owing to the fact, that the clamping arms 3 extend from and return to the base in a curve, a great stability is on the one hand imparted to the arms, so that their spring effect and consequently their clamping effect is increased. On the other hand, this shape facilitates the fitting of the hair clasp on the curl, as the entire curl can be gripped more reliably between the arms.

The clamping arms may also be narrower than shown in Fig. 1 and the aperture in the clamping arms might be omitted or made of a different shape.

The shape of the hair clasp might also be other than that of the form of construction described by way of example. Thus the clamping arms 3 might each be substantially of rectangular shape instead of oval and be provided with a central aperture so as to take the form of an open frame the longitudinal sides of which extend parallel to each other at a small spacing. Also in this instance the aperture in the clamping arms may be omitted, the clamping arms being then formed of a solid piece of sheet metal or the like. The clamping arms may however be narrower than illustrated in the drawing, so that the bearing surface of the metal parts on the hair is reduced as much as possible.

Moreover the hair clasps may be adapted to the shape of the head by bending the clamping arms in a plane vertical to the pivot axle.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A hair clasp, comprising two clamping arms of resilient material without projections such as pins, teeth or the like and arranged to rotate relatively to one another on a pin, a spring round said pivot pin engaging said clamping arms and adapted to press the front portions of said clamping arms together so that in the closed position they lie with one arm substantially in contact or in close proximity to the other arm over its entire surface.

2. A hair clasp according to claim 1, in which the clamping arms are substantially alike in shape.

3. A hair clasp according to claim 1 or 2 in which the boundary line of the clamping arms forms a curve extending from one side of the pivot point to the front end and returning from the front end to the other side of the pivot point.

4. A hair clasp according to any one of the preceding claims in which the clamping arms are of solid sheet metal.

5. A hair clasp according to claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the clamping arms are provided with an aperture, leaving a narrow boundary edge extending in a curve from one side of the pivot axis of said arms to the front end and returning on the other side to the pivot axis.

10 6. A hair clasp according to claim 1, in which each clamping arm is provided with a handle bent at an angle to the plane of the arms.

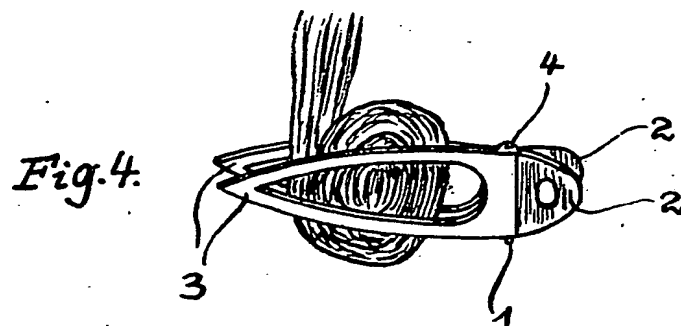
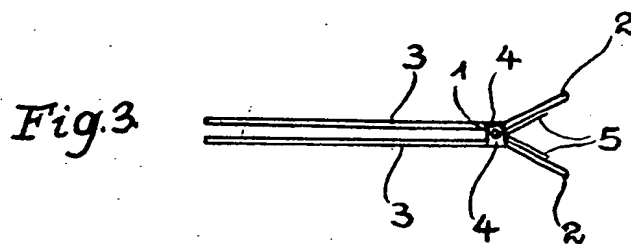
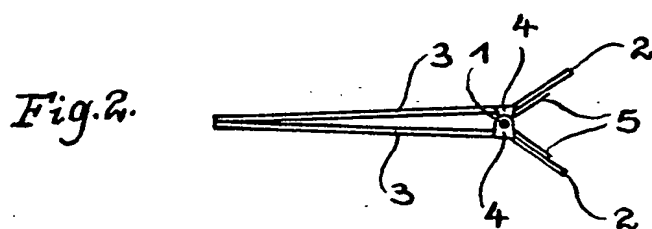
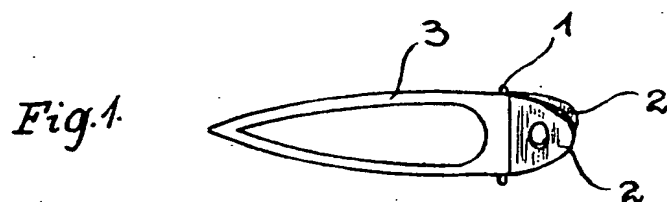
7. A hair clasp according to claim 6 in which the handles are of short wide shape with large gripping surface.

8. A hair clasp substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawing. 15

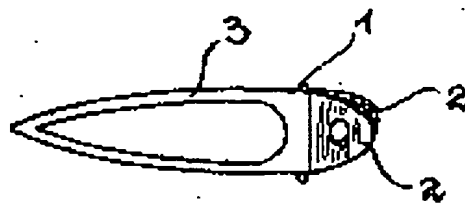
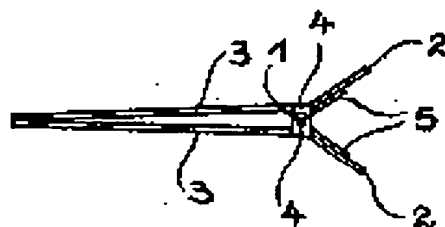
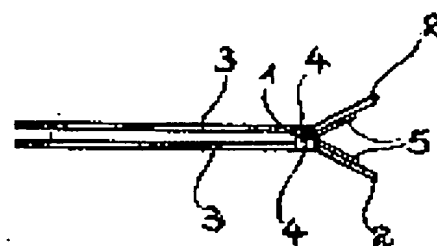
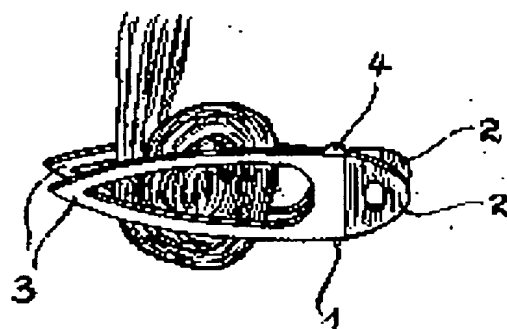
Dated the 24th day of April, 1931.

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Fig. 1.*Fig. 2.**Fig. 3.**Fig. 4.*

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